

Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

President: Joe Vergara KA9ZPA
Vice Pres: Keith Coburn K9PHI
Secretary: Bob Boles WB9AYB
Treasurer: Mac McCarty NV9K
Repeater Trustee: David Julian WB9YDG

WB9YIG/R
146.835

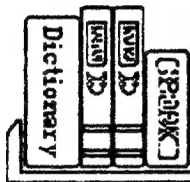
The Spark Gap

February 1992

1992 AREA VE TESTING SCHEDULE

March 21	Rushville	N6RS	763-6090
April 18	Franklin	NV9K	736-6320
May 16	Franklin	NV9K	736-6320
June 20	Franklin	NV9K	736-6320
July 18	Franklin	NV9K	736-6320
Aug 15	Franklin	NV9K	736-6320
Sept 19	Franklin	NV9K	736-6320
Oct 17	Franklin	NV9K	736-6320
Nov 21	Rushville	N6RS	763-6090

Note that testing in Franklin will run for seven consecutive months!



For Your Information

Joe Vergara KA9ZPA and Karen Vergara N9KTH were awarded certificates of recognition at the recent annual meeting of the Johnson County Red Cross. At this same meeting Doran Miller was elected president.

Ross Marlin, N9DZR has been in the hospital for tests. He checked into the net last Sunday and indicated he was waiting on test results. Hope everything is ok Ross.

Sorry to hear of the accident involving the sister of Richard, KI9T. We hope things turn out ok.

We are also sorry to hear of the death of Larry Walters father. Our thoughts are with you Larry.

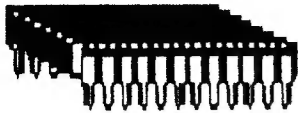
COLUMBUS REVISITED

Club members at the January meeting saw their ship come in. Well, at least we heard from Ralph Talbot the captain of the 33 ft ketch "Tievole". Ralph will set sail from Florida in April to join an international fleet of boats in Palos, Spain to celebrate Columbus' voyage across the Atlantic to discover the Americas in 1492. Ralph and Jack Parker, NT9J, will leave Palos in Mid-October and spend two weeks sailing to the Canary Islands. The fleet will then head across the Atlantic following Columbus' route until they reach San Salvadore in Mid-December. Over 200 boats from around the world are expected to make the trip. Jack and Ralph will have a SSB radio on board so they can make daily contacts with club members. Jack promises to bring back lots of pretty pictures! Ralph has also joined the Novice class so that he can get in on the Ham action!

NEW NOVICE CLASS

KA9OOH AND NV9K started their annual spring Novice class on February 3rd. Nineteen were present for the first class and several more indicated by phone that they would attend the second meeting. There were 9 from the Franklin area, 3 from Greenwood, and 7 from Indianapolis.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 1992 DUES ?



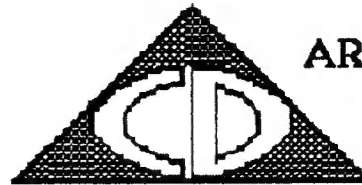
NEW TECH

THE SOGGY SANDWICH CURE

A natural substance found in crab shells, butterfly wings, and the cell walls of fungi could solve an age-old problem for lunch-boxes for children: soggy sandwiches. Chitin (pronounced kite 'n) and its derivative chitosan, have been made into experimental edible films that could be wrapped around sandwich bread, pizza crusts, and ice cream cones to protect them from moisture.

Scientists working with the materials say chitosan could one day have as many applications as wood pulp. The chemical can moisturize skin and hair, clean hazardous wastes from water, bandage wounds, and prevent food from perishing. It's also biodegradable. How can we use it in amateur radio? Well, we do need to protect those shack-snacks!

**We need you at the meeting this
saturday !**



ARE WE PREPARED ?

The recent air disaster in Evansville is a grim reminder of the Indy Ramada situation of four years ago. These things happen and even a small community has to be concerned with how to handle the problem if it should occur here. Exactly what would we do? How would we be notified to arrive at the scene? Who would we report to? Who will disburse the amateur volunteers to places where they are needed? These are only a few of the questions that need to be answered BEFORE a disaster happens! The Executive committee has been working on this and are planning a meeting with Joan, K9DON and Sam Williams to devise a BASIC plan of action for emergencies. We hope to get this information to members as soon as possible.

CLUB MEETING AGENDA

Joe, KA9ZPA, says that Larry, KB9FVJ will give a talk on broadcasting this saturday.

**Mid-State Amateur Radio-Club
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